

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 /066 W

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R 231155Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7100

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TZ, ET

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN GOODWILL DELEGATION

REF: ADDIS ABABA 15119

1. FOUR-MAN GOODWILL DELEGATION FROM ETHIOPIAN MILITARY GOVERNMENT ARRIVED TANZANIA DECEMBER 20 AND FOLLOWING DAY DELIVERED SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM GENERAL BENTI TO PRESIDENT NYERERE AT LATTER'S VACATION RETREAT IN BUTIAMA. ACCORDING PRESS, DELEGATION MET WITH NYERERE FOR HOUR AND A HALF, "IN A GOOD ATMOSPHERE OF BROTHERHOOD." DELEGATION SPOKESMAN SAID ETHIOPIA HAD DECIDED TO GO SOCIALIST AS THE FASTEST ROUTE TO DEVELOPMENT, AND THAT THE MILITARY GOVERNING COUNCIL HAD PLANNED THIS VISIT TO TANZANIA SHORTLY AFTER THE REVOLUTION. ETHIOPIA HOPED TO LEARN FROM THE EXPERIENCES OF TANZANIA AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, BUT ETHIOPIAN SOCIALISM "WILL HAVE TO BE ENTIRELY ETHIOPIAN," BECAUSE "THE ETHIOPIAN SETTING IS ENTIRELY DIFFERENT. IT HAS BEEN UNDER THE FEUDAL SYSTEM FOR TOO LONG. BUT WE DO SHARE THE SAME

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PRINCIPLE: HARD WORK AND THE SPIRIT OF SOCIALISM."

SPOKESMAN PRAISED PRESIDENT NYERERE AS A "LEADER WHO WORKS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE." THE DELEGATION'S NEXT STOP IS ZAIRE.

2. COMMENT: TANZANIAN PRESS HAS HEADLINED ETHIOPIA'S DECISION TO GO SOCIALIST, AND WHILE THERE HAS AS YET BEEN NO OFFICIAL COMMENT, WE PRESUME THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS A WELCOME ONE. AND FROM THE FRIENDLY RECEPTION GIVEN ETHIOPIAN GOODWILL MISSION IT WOULD SEEM THAT TANGOV IS WILLING TO FORGIVE AND FORGET LAST MONTH'S POLITICAL EXECUTION, THOUGH NEYRERE MAY HAVE MADE CLEAR TO DELEGATION THAT TANGOV DEPLORES THIS KIND OF BLOODSHED.
CARTER

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